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THE CIA AND THE SENATE

MORGAN BEATTY: "Now, more news by direct report. The CIA and the Senate. Here's Robert McCormick, NBC News Congressional Correspondent."

MCCORMICK: "The Congressional uproar over the Central Intelligence Agency broke out again today. Senator McCarthy, the Minnesota Democrat, who wants more Senatorial control over the spy agency, brought up on the Senate Floor a letter published in the St. Louis Globe Democrat expressing pleasure over the newspaper's editorial that criticized those who'd attacked the CIA. The letter was signed by the new CIA Director, Richard Helms."

"McCarthy, with characteristic sarcastic humor, said, 'Helms' letter shows what can happen when career men are promoted to top jobs.' Said McCarthy, 'It's a little like the trouble you run into when you arm slaves. It takes a little while for them to adjust.'"

"Chairman Fulbright of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee said the Senate should find out whether the CIA takes part in domestic affairs, such as union elections. Fulbright didn't elaborate, but presumably he referred to reports that the Agency might have labeled as subversives some candidates for high office positions."

"Senator Saltonstall, the Massachusetts Republican, and a defender of the CIA, said that Helms had apologized."

SALTONSTALL: "I've talked with Mr. Helms on the telephone. He said yes, he did write the letter. It was an error and he was sorry for it. I asked if I could quote him on the Floor of the Senate on that point, and he said yes."

MCCORMICK: "Senator Saltonstall of Massachusetts."

"Tomorrow, Helms will appear at a closed door meeting of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee."

"Robert McCormick, NBC Congressional Correspondent."